

[SRP file copy]

09-14-1984

DWP—

"personal"

(09-07-1984, 09-10-1984; 09-12-1984)

Your two mighty letters (with no less than 12 enclosures) have been received and long before I opened them, I "appreciated" the attractive postage stamps that you selected. You must have purchased a huge stock-pile of the old stamps -- they are no longer available here. The dog stamps are new to me. Pooch, I'm sure, is pleased with this recent philatelic canine series -- the Chesapeake Bay Retriever & the American Foxhound are my favorites.

Thank you for the reduced copy of my "notes" to you on ER78/Clinton 153. I am still waiting for some more returns to come in on butler/managers and deaths and when I have all return back, I will complete a new "descendant list" -- at which time I will send it to you to make copies for distribution. Regrettably, I do not have any good copy machines at my disposal.

— Enclosed is a photo of JVB that John gave me to send to you.

— No porphyria note from Miller's "No Body in Question" is very interesting. No malady is on that VRI was very aware of, as it was her paternal grandfather (George 3) who began it all. I have never seen a very detailed account of the "exorbitant madness" of George the Third. I suppose such accounts do exist. Was G-3 wildly eccentric mad?/daemoniac mad?/crouching-in-the-corner mad?

— I don't recall what I may have said about your Preface. Clearly I must have mentioned the great clarity of the text; given the clarity of the Preface, it would appear that the hardest part has already been accomplished.

— Four hours/day, every morning -- one can clearly move heaven and earth from that vantage point. Gertrude Stein insisted on one-half hour every day and as Gertrude Stein proved, the half-hour became books, became the writer, became the writer's life.

Yesterday afternoon (70°, breezy, sunny, an altogether perfect autumn day) I successfully flew the Phoenix kite that you gave me. I didn't want to put it up too high for fear of wind damage. My

kite flying field is the one behind the building. The Phoenix is now back in his place on the East Wall.

— Your 301 dream is most interesting -- probably a Pioneer Days hold-over in your consciousness.

Sunday is Mayflower day -- I shall celebrate by cooking an acorn and a butternut squash for myself. Recently I bought some beautiful acorn squash at the rate of 3 pounds for one dollar. Heaven: a whole squash boiled whole & then served with butter, salt & pepper.

One week from tomorrow autumn begins. How shall I celebrate that momentous beginning? Certainly the Vivaldi "Four Seasons" comes to mind.

Who is code "3"? -- It looks like Verna's hand.

Last night between 6 & 7 P.M., I visited EAG -- I had an hour to visit because the CPL board of directors meeting began at 7:30 P.M. I have convinced the CPL board that we must purchase a microfilm reader/printer. The Board voted unanimously last night to buy a Canon 300 Reader/Printer for over \$4,000.00. Next I will convince them to finish the microfilming of the newspapers. Can you send me a copy of what ever notes you have on the content of the various rolls of microfilm that we have already produced? At any rate, just before going to visit EAG I read her letter of 09-07-1984 to you, a copy of which you enclosed in your letter of 09-10-1984 to me. Is it not amazing that EAG & Beatrice only know their own first cousin & no one else in the group? Dan Aker, as you know by now, died on 08-28-1984. EAG went to the funeral, which was private. EAG was upset when we talked about Mr. Aker but she was not overcome with sorrow. Having lived for 87 years, she has experienced the death of a great many people -- including a great many good friends. EAG knows what death is all about & is not afraid of it. As she on more than one occasion has said: "I'm ready" [to die whenever the time comes.]

— I will attempt to deposit the Harrod T. Cornin check same bank book -- from my records, I see that the bank

current balance 9/6/84 - \$106.30; plus Harrod Cornin check - \$116.30.